



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer
(210) 384-7440

July 28, 2006

FORMER DIRECTOR OF FINANCE CONVICTED OF FRAUD

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that Robert Sterling Miller, also known as, Beau Miller, the former Director of Finance for the Texas Land Title Association (TLTA), was sentenced to 70 months in federal prison after being found guilty of fraud by a federal jury on April 25, 2006.

At today's sentencing U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks upwardly departed from the federal sentencing guidelines in pronouncing Miller's sentence. In addition to the prison sentence, Miller was ordered to pay approximately \$250,000 in restitution to those he defrauded and serve five years of supervised release upon completion of his prison term.

Miller served as the Director of Finance at TLTA from February of 2001 to September of 2004. In that capacity, Miller was responsible for all financial, accounting and payroll functions of TLTA. Beginning in March of 2002, Miller fraudulently increased his bi-monthly salary by \$1,000 a pay period. Miller unlawfully acquired \$54,333.37 over the course of his employment related to the increase in salary. Miller also fraudulently caused himself to receive eleven unauthorized bonuses totaling \$60,269.15. Miller's unlawful receipt of bonuses and salary formed the basis of the wire fraud counts.

Shortly before the discover of Miller fraud scheme in early September 2004, Miller directed a \$44,000 check drawn on a TLTA bank account at Guaranty Bank to an accounting firm operated by Miller, One-Two-Three Accounting, Inc. Miller's unlawful receipt of the proceeds of this check formed the basis of the bank fraud count.

Prior to obtaining employment at TLTA, Miller pled no contest in November 1996 to a charge of Aggravated Theft in the District Court of Comal County, Texas, in connection with the theft of funds from Midway Mobile Homes in New Braunfels, Texas. Miller was subsequently sentenced to four years deferred adjudication. At the time, Miller was hired by TLTA in February 2001, Miller deceived TLTA as to his education and work history. In addition, Miller represented to TLTA that he had never pled no contest to a felony.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Special Agent Matthew J. Gravelle of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Mark Lane prosecuted this case on behalf of the Government.

#####